

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. A container for storing items, comprising:
a container bottom;
a side wall extending upward from said bottom and terminating in a rim defining
the periphery of said container, said side wall tapering from top to bottom;
a lid covering said container; and
a surface discontinuity disposed on said side wall intermediate said rim and said container
bottom.
- 10 2. The container of claim 1, further comprising a layer of shrinkwrap formed to said
side wall and, optionally, said lid, said layer of shrinkwrap formed to and covering said surface
discontinuity and conforming to the shape thereof.
- 15 3. The container of claim 2, wherein said shrinkwrap layer further comprises a tear
originating at a top portion thereof and extending downward along said side wall, said
shrinkwrap layer being substantially separated from said lid and rim yet substantially clinging to
said side wall, whereby said lid can be opened or removed yet said shrinkwrap layer clings to
said side wall.
- 20 4. The container of claim 2, further comprising an adhesive-free label disposed
between said shrinkwrap layer and said container side wall, said shrinkwrap layer holding said
label in place.
5. The container of claim 2, further comprising a label adhesively affixed to the
outside of said shrinkwrap layer about said side wall.
6. The container of claim 2, wherein said shrinkwrap layer comprises an integral
piece of shrink wrap.
- 25 7. The container of claim 2, wherein said shrinkwrap layer covers the outer periphery
of said lid.
8. The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises an
indentation.
9. The container of claim 8, wherein said indentation comprises a ridge extending

continuously around said container side wall.

10. The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a plurality of indentations disposed on said side wall.

11. The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a
5 protuberance disposed on said side wall.

12. The container of claim 1, wherein said surface discontinuity comprises a plurality of protuberances disposed on said side wall.

13. A method of sealing a container with a shrinkwrap layer, said method
comprising the following steps:

10 a) producing a container having a bottom, at least one side wall, an open rim
and a lid that covers the container;
b) forming a surface discontinuity on the side wall; and
c) enveloping the side wall and at least a portion of the lid with a layer of
shrinkwrap and shrinking the layer of shrinkwrap to the container such that
15 the layer of shrinkwrap covers the surface discontinuity and conforms to
the shape thereof.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

e) tearing the shrinkwrap layer such that a tear in the shrinkwrap extends
down the side wall; and
20 f) substantially separating the shrinkwrap layer from the container lid and
rim, wherein the shrinkwrap substantially clings to the side wall but the lid
can be opened or removed.

15. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of placing an adhesive-free
label against the side wall before step c).

25 16. The method of claim 13, further comprising affixing a label to the outside of the
shrinkwrap layer about the side wall.